

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE OF AUGUST 18-19 CARRIED STORY ON
TOP RIGHT OF PAGE 1 UNDER FOLLOWING HEADLINE : "NIXON SCHEDULES
EUROPE TRIP FOR LATE IN OCTOBER".

WASHINGTON, AUG .17 (IHT) - PRESIDENT NIXON IS PLANNING TO
MAKE HIS "GRAND TOUR" OF EUROPE IN LATE OCTOBER AND EARLY NOVEMBER,
WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS SAID TODAY .

PREPARATIONS HAVE BEGUN FOR A TWO-WEEK JOURNEY DESIGNED TO
REBUILD THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE. THE TRIP WILL TAKE MR. NIXON TO
FRANCE, BRITAIN, GERMANY, ITALY, BELGIUM AND PERHAPS ONE OR TWO
OTHER COUNTRIES IN WESTERN EUROPE.

A STOP IN BRUSSELS WILL BE KEYED TO MEETINGS WITH NATO LEADERS
TO COORDINATE A UNIFIED STAND ON TALKS WITH SOVIET LEADERS AND
OTHER EAST BLOC NATIONS ABOUT MUTUAL ARMED-FORCES REDUCTIONS
AND OTHER EUROPEAN SECURITY PROBLEMS.

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MR. NIXON WILL BE MEETING WITH ALLIED LEADERS AT A TIME OF MOUNTING

U.S. PRESSURE TO REDUCE THE 300.000-MAN AMERICAN TROOP LEVEL
IN WESTERN EUROPE.

WHITE HOUSE ADVANCE TEAMS, IN ADDITION TO NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER HENRY A. KISSINGER, ARE EXPECTED TO GO TO EUROPE NEXT MONTH TO MAKE DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS FOR MR. NIXON'S MEETINGS WITH EUROPEAN HEADS OF STATE.

THE PRESIDENT WILL BE TRAVELING WITH HIS SENIOR DIPLOMATIC AND MILITARY ADVISERS, INCLUDING MR. KISSINGER AND SECRETARY OF STATE WILLIAM P. ROGERS.

IT STILL IS NOT KNOWN IF THERE WILL BE A SUMMIT MEETING ATTENDED BY ALL THE WESTERN CHIEFS OF STATE WHEN MR. NIXON IS ABROAD.

BUT RANKING ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS PREDICTED YESTERDAY THAT AGREEMENT ON A NEW DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES FOR THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE WILL BE REACHED BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR.

ONE OFFICIAL SAID THE DECLARATION-A NO. 1 1973 FOREIGN-POLICY GOAL OF THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION -- DEFINITELY WILL BE READY" FOR SIGNING WHEN THE PRESIDENT VISITS EUROPE.

THIS WAS THE MOST OPTIMISTIC RECENT FORECAST ON CHANCES OF REACHING ACCORD THIS YEAR ON THE DOCUMENT INTENDED TO PATCH UP THE CRACKS IN THE ALLIANCE.

THE FRENCH HAD MADE IT KNOWN THAT THEY SAW NO NEED FOR A NEW STATEMENT OF ALLIANCE PRINCIPLES, NOR FOR ANY CHANGE IN THE ALLIANCE.

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFIRMED TODAY THAT MR. KISSINGER, WHO IN THE SPRING FIRST ANNOUNCED THE ADMINISTRATION GOAL OF AN ALLIANCE OVERHAUL IS PLANNING A EUROPEAN TRIP NEXT MONTH.

IT SAID THAT MR. KISSINGER HAS ACCEPTED AN INVITATION TO ADDRESS A MEETING OF THE BELGIAN NATO ASSOCIATION IN BRUSSELS ON SEPT. 10. THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS WHO CONFIRMED HIS ACCEPTANCE SAID THAT MR. KISSINGER CURRENTLY HAS NO PLANS TO VISIT OTHER EU-UNCLASSIFIED

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ROPEAN CAPITALS DURING HIS STAY.

BUT THE OFFICIALS WOULD NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT MR. KISSINGER WOULD USE THE OCCASION OF HIS TRIP TO EXPLAIN TO HIS EUROPEAN COUNTERPARTS THE NEW U.S. DRAFT OF THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

THE STATE DEPARTMENT SAID WEDNESDAY THAT "ROUGH, PRELIMINARY AND TENTATIVE" U.S. PROPOSALS FOR THE DECLARATION HAD

BEEN SENT OUT INDIVIDUALLY TO MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE ALLIANCE
AND OF THE COMMON MARKET.

MR. NIXON AND MR. KISSINGER ARE PRESSING FOR ADOPTION OF THE
"PRINCIPLES TO UPDATE THE ATLANTIC PARTNERSHIP IN LIGHT OF CHANGES
IN THE WORLD SITUATION, ESTABLISHING, FOR EXAMPLE, SOME LINK WITH
JAPAN AND PROVIDING FOR A NEW APPROACH TO TRADE, FINANCE AND
ECONOMIC AND MILITARY BURDENS.

CIRCULATION OF THE DRAFT U.S. PROPOSAL IN EUROPEAN CAPITALS
MEANS THAT "THE BALL IS NOW IN THEIR COURT," SAID ONE OFFICIAL
WHO WAS OPTIMISTIC THAT CONTINUING DIPLOMATIC DIALOGUE WOULD
PRODUCE AGREEMENT BEFORE MR. NIXON'S JOURNEY.

MR. KISSINGER'S TRIP TO EUROPE COINCIDES WITH THE SEPT. 10-11
MEETING OF COMMON MARKET FOREIGN MINISTERS IN COPENHAGEN. BUT
WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS SAID THEY DID NOT EXPECT THE NIXON AIDE TO
ATTEND THAT MEETING.

THE COPENHAGEN SESSION, PLUS DELIBERATIONS OF THE NATO COUN-
CIL, PROBABLY WILL CRYSTALLIZE A EUROPEAN POSITION ON MOST OF THE
OUTSTANDING ISSUES, WASHINGTON OFFICIALS SAY. END

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